Planning Department GIS User Guide

This document can help you navigate the City Of Valdez's Online Geographic Information System.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA
OPPORTUNITIES IN EVERY SEASON

General Navigation

Zoning

Parcel Selection

Using Map Tools:

- Printing
- Measuring
- Using Layers

City of Valdez Planning Department

Email or call with questions or comments.

GIS@valdezak.gov

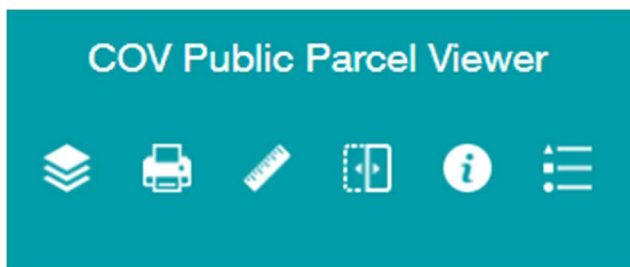907-834-3401

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GIS User Guide

The Valdez Geographic Information System (GIS) is maintained by the City of Valdez. The parcel web mapping service is a mapping platform for general access to parcel and other data for public use and is easily accessible from the City of Valdez website.

General Navigation

This program works like your typical mapping software. Similar to Google Maps you can navigate via clicking and holding, or scrolling to zoom. Mobile users can pinch and pull to zoom in and out.

Using Map Tools

There are a number of tools available to navigate, explore and search map features and records. These tools can be found in the lower right and one clicked on can be adjusted to help find helpful information. These tools include:

1. Layers
2. Printing
3. Measurements
4. Swipe
5. About

In this document you can find instructions for each of these tools.

Using The Search Bar

If you know the address or PIDN of the location you are trying to find simply typing that address into the search bar can be the quickest way to find it.

Selecting A Parcel

Once a parcel is selected via searching or clicking on the map, a window like this is shown which displays helpful information about the lot.

The number at the top of the window is the property identification number, or PIDN.

The legal description includes the lot, block, and subdivision or survey.

The 'Area' field displays the total size of the parcel, not the area of structures on the parcel.

The plat number can be searched and downloaded on the [Alaska Department Of Natural Resources Recorder's Office. (http://dnr.alaska.gov/ssd/recoff/)](http://dnr.alaska.gov/ssd/recoff/) The DNR Recorder's Office website will hold the most up-to-date ownership information. The information in this window will be effective as of the 'Last Update' field at the bottom of the window. Please remember that there may be a delay in updating some information, including ownership.

Scroll to view more info

Property Tax information: Tax Year shows the year of the tax information displayed below. This section displays certified values from the property tax roll for that year. The tax roll is certified each year in May. In the future, proposed values for the upcoming tax year will also be displayed. These preliminary values (before certification) will be displayed in addition to the certified values from the previous tax year.
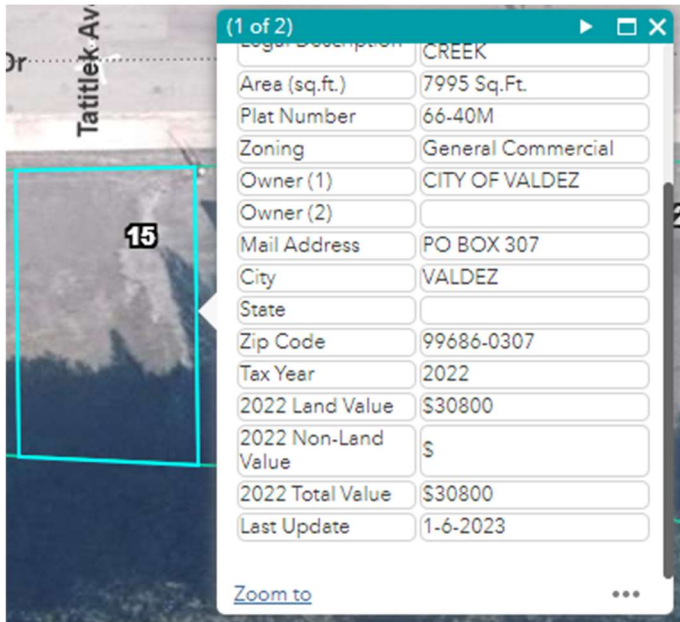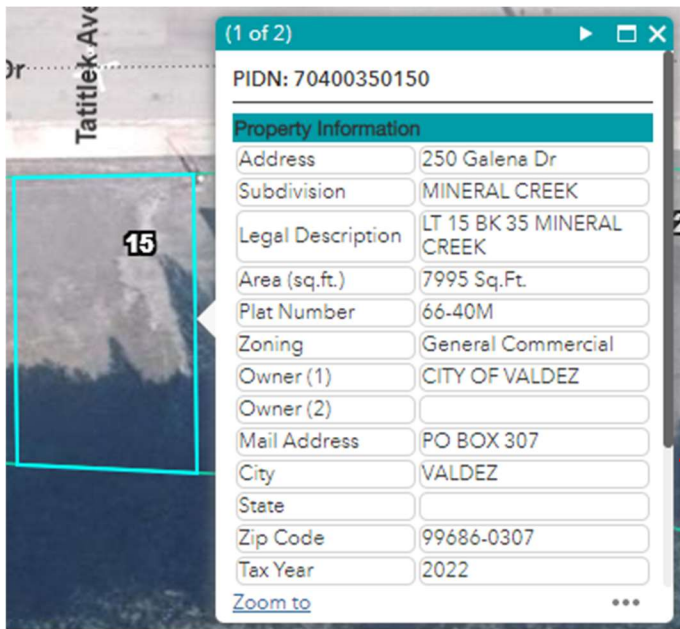
2022 Land Value shows the 2022 certified value of the land portion of the property (not including improvements.) 2022 Non-Land Value displays the value of improvements on the property. Improvements are typically structures, but can also include other types of improvements like wells, paved areas or connex.
2022 Total Value displays the total 2022 certified assessed value of the property, which is the sum of the land plus non-land. This information does not include any exemptions that may be in place on a given parcel.

If you have questions about the property tax information displayed, please contact the **City of Valdez Finance Department at 907-834-3475** or by visiting their department page on the city website.

View more pages using the arrow near the top.

The number of pages available may change depending on which layers you have turned on.
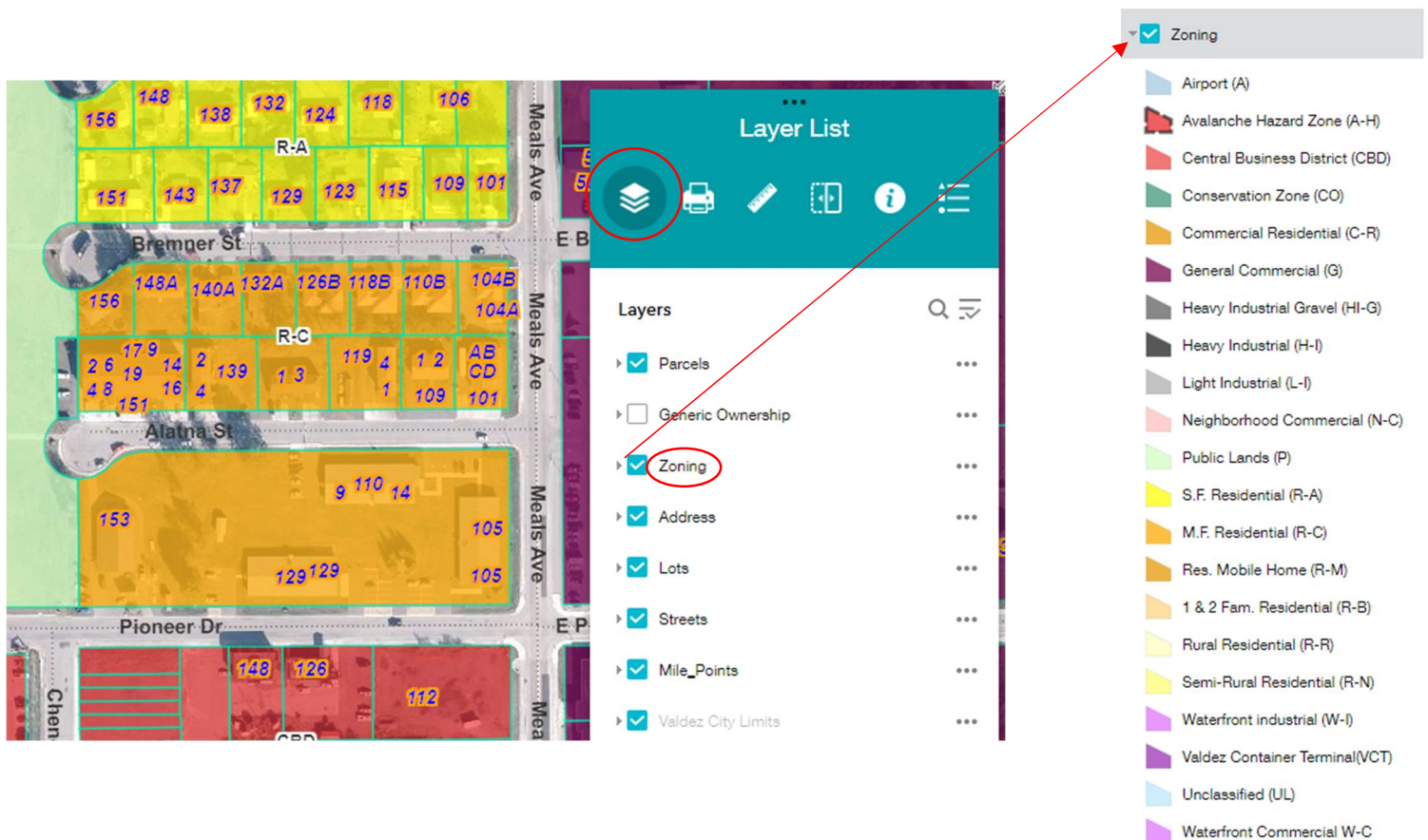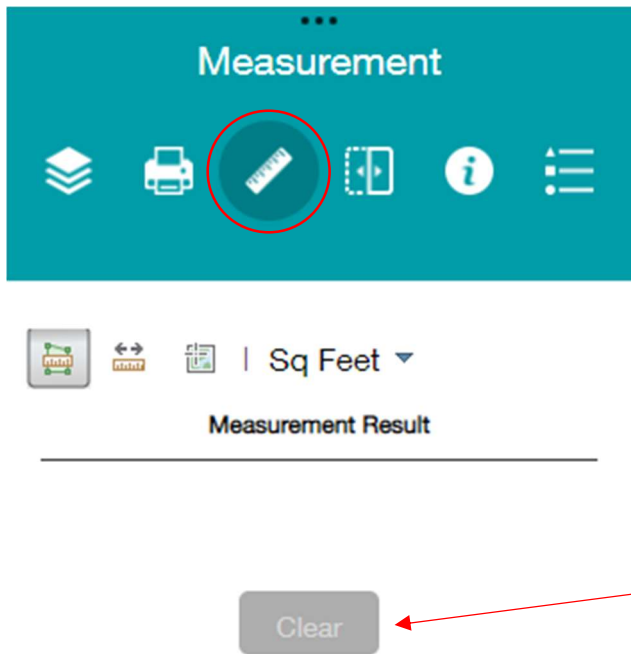
Using Layers

Layers are information that can be added or removed from the map. The layers tool can be used to toggle those various layers of information on and off. It can be accessed in the tool bar by selecting the icon below highlighted a red circle.

By default, most layers are already turned on and therefore appear on the map. In the example below the zoning layer was turned on. The zoning layer has color coded systems that can be found clicking the arrow next to the zoning check box. See images below for details.

If you need to view the map without one of the layers you could unselect that check box. Example: If you would like to view the map without property lines showing you could deselect the Parcels layer.

Attributes are available for the parcel, generic ownership, and zoning layer. If multiple layers are turned on, you will have to cycle through the popup window using the arrows at the top. For questions about the zoning information displayed, please contact the Planning Department at 907-834-3401 or email planningdept@valdezak.gov. The generic ownership layer will show parcels that are privately owned and those that owned by the City of Valdez, State of Alaska, or the United States Government.

Using The Measurement Tools

The measure tool allows for measurement of approximate distances, areas, and location. Various forms of measurement can be accessed by their corresponding dropdown menus.
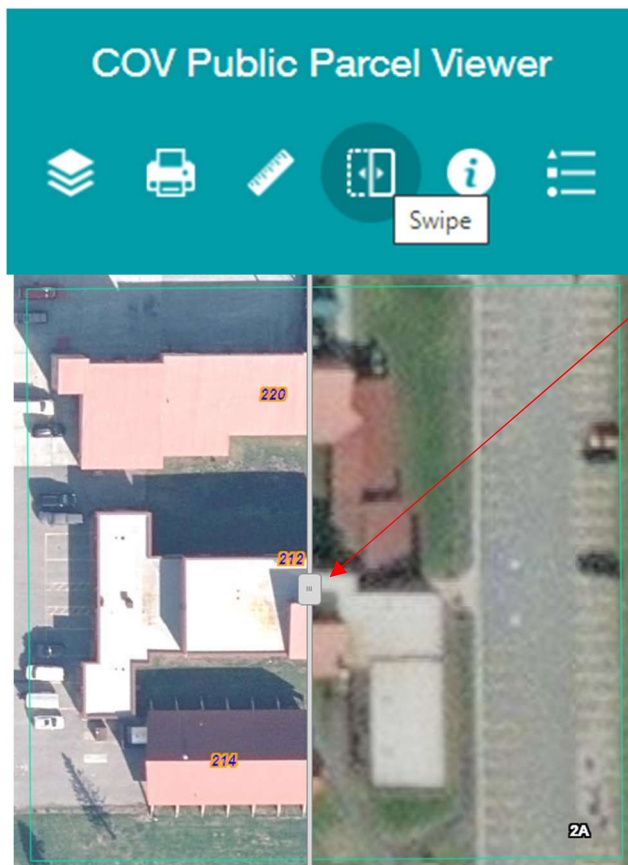
Area
Distance
Location

Please note that the map distances will vary from real world distances. Also, the inherent spatial limitations on the precision and accuracy of the map data can contribute to map inaccuracy and error. For more information on map error please review the use & limitation guide.
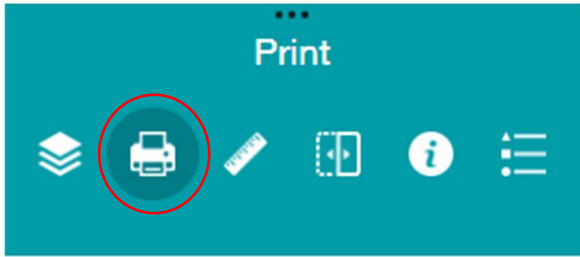
To measure a new area, simply clear your current area search by using this button.

Using The Swipe Tool

The Swipe tool is used to compare historic aerial data with our most current aerial data. This can be useful when researching changes over time.

To use the tool, click and hold the slider. While holding down your click, move your courser back and forth to compare images.

Using The Printing Tool

The print tool allows for the creation of a print page that exports a digital file for printing. The dropdown menus in layout and format give various options as to how the digital file is exported.

For a typical 8.5" by 11" page, we suggest using the **ANSI A Landscape** or **ANSI A Portrait** layout. An example of one can be found below.

The Advanced button is for users that want more control over the configuration and output options.

Example: Before printing, go to the advanced tab and change the **scale bar unit** setting. Depending on the scale of your printed area, you may want to adjust your scale from miles to feet. Whatever scale is selected will be shown in the bottom right of your print.